El Caballero

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL | NOVEMBER 7, 1986 | VOLUME LXIX | NUMBER 3

E.C.H.S. see Red

by Susan Chiang

Red Ribbon Week, October 26 through November 3, was the first campaign of its kind to be organized in the RUSD. Its purpose was to promote an increased public awareness of alcohol and drug abuse.

Red Ribbon Week was initiated in California by the California for Drug-Free Youth organization. Of the schools in the Richmond Unified School District only El Cerrito High School participated by having students and staff wear the red ribbons which signify anger and urgency concerning drug and alcohol abuse. The Red Ribbon campaign hopes to make the public more aware of the dangers of drugs and alcohol abuse.

Kathie Weinstein, the PTSA organizer of Red Ribbon Week with other members of the School Board, have done a great deal to start this campaign in the RUSD area. At ECHS, the Administrators have worked hard to help promote this campaign along with SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving). They hope that this campaign will be as successful at EC as it was in the Eastern state schools.

oG oaGuhcs!

Spirited Gauchos take part in a life-sized word search at EC's first night rally, held October 20th.

SADD gives safe rides

by Ellisa Sagle

This Homecoming, the Students Against Drunk Driving, (SADD), chapter with the help of some parents from El Cerrito's PTSA will host a trial of the program called Safe Rides.

The Safe Ride program's intent is to give anyone a safe, free, and confidential ride home if that person is too drunk to drive. This program is already instituted in five different spots of Contra Costa County. Every Friday and Saturday night from 10 p.m.-2 a.m., Safe Ride teams around Contra Costa County man telephones, awaiting calls from people who have the courage and insight to realize they may be incapable of driving safely.

On the average each post of Safe Rides picks up 2 people each night. In the last two years Safe Rides has been in operation, over 300 people have been taken home safely.

Unfortunately, there is not a Safe Rides post in the Richmond/El Cerrito area, but the El Cerrito High School SADD chapter hopes that by the end of the year a Safe Rides program will be set up and blossom in this area.

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Fall sports face cancellation

by Veli Lehman

Insurance problems in the North Coast Section may lead to the cancellation of all NCS prep sports events. The NCS is lacking in the needed amount of liability insurance.

The cancellations would effect all Fall sports including X-country, Football, Volleyball, and Tennis. The insurance is needed to cover liability for athletic injury, punitive damages and pollution. Without a change in the insurance policy an athlete or spectator injured at the competion could sue NCS personnel.

The West County Times quoted the NCS president Jack Hayes as saying "We won't run without liability." For insurance

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Gauchos, Eagles debate in Big Apple

by Patchen Markell

Kennedy and El Cerrito have always been rivals, but recently they put aside their differences for a joint forensic venture to New York. Both schools sent their top two teams to compete at The Bronx School of Science Debate tournament in New York City, from Friday October 17th to Sunday the 19th.

The tournament is affectionately called "Big Bronx" by debaters, and with good reason. Big Bronx is a major national event, combining competitors from both the National Forensics League and the very tough National Catholic Forensics League. The two leagues rarely meet, because of tradition and convenience. The quality of the debaters at this tournament is therefore the highest in the country.

The Kennedy team of senior Jennifer Haapala and junior Gurikirat Kahlon also went 4 wins- 3 losses. Haapala is also the Kennedy SA President. Kennedy sophomores Todd Cort and Collin Kahl went 3-4.

The squad had Sunday free, so they toured the Big Apple, seeing Rockefeller Center, the Hudson River, and shopping centers that make Hilltop Mall look like a five and dime store.

The four teams will be going to a Chicago double tournament lasting for ten November days, and a three day tournament in Atlanta, Georgia.

132 varsity teams from 25 states competed in seven

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Homecoming events planned

by Ellisa Sagle

This year the traditional ECHS Homecoming will feature the football game against the Alameda High Hornets, followed by a dance Dj'd by K.E.C.G.'s Scott Fujita and El Cerrito's PRINCIPAL SOUND PROJECT.

On Wednesday, October 29 elections were held in each of the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades to determine final candidates for Homecoming king and queen. The results of the election will be announced at the game.

Candidates from the Freshman class are Johanna Carty and Salvador Siliezar. Sophomores

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OPINIONS

Is the Class of 1990 just hiding?

by Tyler Wong

It is purely coincidential that the day after I picked this topic for my editorial, my English teacher, Mrs. Mehlhorn, assigned us an essay titled "Everyone knows what it's like to be a freshman," a version of E.B. White's, "The Meaning of Democracy." The analogies that popped up were stuff like "Being a freshman is the teaspoon of salt in the sugar bowl," or "It's like a bag lady in Marin," or "A 'Good Housekeeping' in a stack of 'Penthouses'" A friend of mine compared El Cerrito High School to a rusty trash can. "The seniors are the half eaten moldy fruits and sandwiches, the juniors are the coke cans crawling with ants, and the sophmores are the candy wrappers. The freshmen? We're the scum and dribble at the bottom that the janitors have to scrape off."

I would imagine that this social status is automatic. There's nothing that us freshmen can do to avoid it. I'm ready to accept it and it looks like the rest of my class is as well.

There are a few things many freshmen do not know about. Having an older brother ad sister gives me some relief from being a freshman. I've heard many a junior whining about "The Bailey" a history test that raises the sales of coffee and No-Doz.

We're the scum and dribble at the bottom

When my sister was a senior she was constatly filling out college applications and forms and other articles of whatnot. College stress was obviously deteriorating her nerves. Both of them also spoke EXTREMELY high of the infamous Mr. Berman screaming,"DUMB! DUUUUMB!" or, "I CANNOT BELIEEEEEVE THIS CLASS IS INCAPABLE OF SOLVING THIS SIMPLE PROBLEM!" We freshmen-guttersnipes also have the pleasure of viewing the frail upper classmen feebly attempting to perform well in the spotlight of the Ivy Leagues. Although seeing them sweat tips the balance of suffering, I still can't honestly claim pride in being a freshman.

cont. next column

Of course, I'm not trying to compare to the upper classmen. I think I made it clear that by tradition our oppurtunities are limited and we're still a bit dazed from being tossed into the chaotic world of ECHS. I am sure, however, that we will spray more sparks than the average freshman class. And when we move into higher classes with more oppurtunity, we will be one hell of a competitor. This year, we have two wonderful people for President and V.P.; Andy Liu and Margie Proctor. Andy and Margie are both ambitious as well as charasmatic. I feel that they'll do their best.

Maybe you've heard all of this hooey from another freshman class. Well, I don't blame you for expecting us to be just like them. Maybe we are, at this point. But it'll change. The future holds true promises. And besides, we're the class of '90, are we not?

We're also a large class. A few juniors "thought the freshmen would be weak as usual, but when it was their turn for the yell, tis huge rush of voice came booming out. It was only a while later when I realized they didn't know the words." I made myself unavailable for comment.

But there's still more. We are, of course, class of '90, divisible by ten. We were assigned by Chronos, God of time, to represent the start of a new decade.

El Caballero is an official student publication of El Cerrito High School, 540 Ashbury, El Cerrito, California 94530. The opinions expressed in these editorials are not necessarily those of the El Caballero or the ECHS administration. All letters to the editor must be written and signed; the writer's name will be withheld by request. For advertising rates, write to El Cerrito High School, c/o Journalism Department.

Critics—don't preach

by Tina Goldberg

"All songwriters have the right to express their opinions, but some opinions have more of a right to be expressed than others."

Orwell's paradox has resurfaced -- this time, in America's record industry. The culprit? Pop star Madonna.

Until last year, many right-wing censorship groups targeted Madonna for the "trashy lyrics" of her song "Like A Virgin. " Liberals have asserted Madonna's right to freedom of speech -- that is, until her singing recently took an "unliberal" stance.

Madonna's new hit "Papa Don't Preach"recounts the troubles faced by a pregnant teenager who is resolved to "keep her baby." The songwriter, Brian Elliot, claims no ulterior motives. "I saw it as a sensitive plea for compassion and understanding about a young girl who found herself at a crossroads in life and didn't know where to turn," he remarked in a recent San Francisco Examiner article.

Elliot's well-meaning remarks have stood no ground against the wave of criticism the song has generated.

Pop songs can and do influence the way teenagers think. The censorship camp used this fact as an argument against Madonna's graphic songs of a few years ago. Now, such conservative groups as the Washington Wives (of U.S. Congressmen) are embracing Madonna's "anti-abortion" stance. They are even using her song as anti-abortion propaganda. "I think 'Papa Don't Preach' is an important song, and a good one," said a Washington Wive's representative in the same Examiner article.

Conversely, liberals are scorning Elliot and Madonna as much as the conservatives attorney Gloria Allred is demanding Madonna make a public statement noting that there are other choices, including abortion. Otherwise, Allred remarked, Madonna should made an album supporting the "opposite point of view."

Who is right? The conservatives or liberals? Neither. Americans often say they are for "freedom of speech" and all the other high-sounding ideals this country is founded upon. Yet, we are greedy hypocrites. As conservatives or liberals, we are happy only so long as it is "our" freedom which is being protected. "Freedom of speech," however, does not mean certain ideas are more equal than others. It means all ideas may be equally expressed. Only the true upholders of the First Amendment realize that freedom of speech must include freedom not only for the ideas we like, but for those that we hate, too.

Xtra minutes added

by Jeff Pryde

Do you sit in your second period class asking yourself "when does this period end?" "why is my least favorite class this period?" or why couldn't i have a study hall or T.A.this period?" I certainly do.

There is no good reason why they added the extra minutes to second period class.

Supposedly the purpose of these minutes are for the announcements of the day however in the two years I have been here, I have never heard the announcements last longer than 5 minutes. Consequently the class starts early. Everything goes smoothly until the last 5 or 10 minutes of the class when the positive atmosphere is no longer there. Both the teachers and students are ready for a break and the last 5 to 10 minutes are wasted.

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Sophs get just desserts

Lance Boyle.

I just read Neil Gross' editorial about the Great Pit Caper. With the aid of a quote by Ralph Conant and a large volume of hot air, Mr. Gross has inflated a simple act of crime and punishment into an unrecognizable issue involving massive injustice and civil rights. One wonders how Mr. Gross who is a Soph would like to have his block "89" defaced several years from now.

The way I see it some Sophs defaced a Senior block numeral. The administration got wind that the Sophs did it and, in order to prevent a paint war which everyone would lose, squeezed the Sophs to fess up and fix the numeral. They did and their priveledges were restored.

We are short on clean up and long on graffiti here at ECHS. Even the racing mural in the pit got "z"ed by some mindless prankster with a paint roller. Our effort should be to make the place better looking,not trashier. I wish that all of our uglifiers would have to clean up their own messes.

Hats off to the seniors who helped titivate the Ashbury fence. There is a lot more to be done. Perhaps the Sophs would like to fill some bags with litter instead of hot air.

Letters to the Editor-

X-tra minutes CONTINUED

In addition to the lengthening of second period every other class was lengthened along with the passing period between classes: 4 minutes to each class period and 1 minute for each passing period.

I really like the extra minute for the passing period . It gives me an opportunity to make a stop at the bathroom or to make a trip to my locker that would otherwise be impossible in the original 5 minutes.

Next year even more minutes will added on to satsify the state's requirements for the number of hours each student should be in school. If the state continues to add minutes to each school day for upcoming years, we will go to school before sunrise and will come home after sunset.

Dear Editor,

According to the morning announcements, the drug epidemic "kills too many of our youth and steals the futures of those who survive." So our district has decided to give us red ribbons and notebooks to increase our awareness of the drug crisis?

Red Ribbon Week may be a good public relations ploy for Dr. Lovette, but it seems pointless and hypocritical to me. According to the statewide campaign, we're supposed to have special activities and awareness programs. So far, we've had a visit from SADD members who tell us not to stick each other with our ribbon pins. No one has explained in any detail why the drug crisis is so severe. No one has told us who to call if we're alchoholics or cocaine addicts. No one has explained to us what we can do if our friends have drug problems. If the district wants to increase our awareness, it should undertake a program with substance instead of providing unexplained propoganda and expecting us to proudly display our pretty ribbons.

I'm not denting that drugs are a problem. But if anyone asks me why I wear a red ribbon, I'm telling them it's a protest against Apartheid.

Clean up the school

Dear Editor,

People at El Cerrito High sit and eat their lunch in the nice clean cut green grass during lunch time. They bring their food from many places. After they finish eating,it seems as if they do everything that is possible to; avoid using the large garbage cans, which are placed around the school. instead they leave their empty wrappers and their filthy trash scattered all over the grass as if it had been raining Burger King bags and candy wrappers. So why don't we all take pride in oru school and pick up after ourselves?

A Concerned Senior,

Angie Edwards

Liven the rallies

Dear Editor: I am a senior at El Cerrito and I hear that the senior class might have to stay in school until the last day, so this school can make about $70,000. I also hear that the seniors are going to graduate two days after the last day of school and maybe on the football field. I wonder, if this school is going to make all that money off the seniors couldn't this school afford to spend a little of the money on the seniors, so they could graduate at the Richmond Auditorium. And maybe graduate at the last day of school instead of two days after school's out. Maybe the newspaper could do a poll on the seniors to see how they feel about it, and maybe the Board of Education might change their minds.

A senior

Dear Editor,

Our school, El Cerrito High is not a very exciting place. Students cut school and go home because there is nothing exciting going on here. All we've had are football games, stupid potlucks and dead rallies. There is no spirit. Even our 2nd period announcements each day have no spirit, but they try. Now I'm a senior and since this is my last year, I would like to leave this school with some class, some spirit, some type of style, not as the "boring class of '87." If you are a senior I know you are probably feeling the same way. What we need are more activities: talent shows, school picnics (all grades), late night dances, bowling parties, something, anything. We might have to spend money but just think of all the money this school will make back. Think about it!!!!!

Thank you,
Ms. Alicia Jordan
class of '87

Dear editor,

I feel that we need a different type of rally. The rallies are always the same, the dancers always dance, the cheerleaders always do their thing. I feel what we really need is a little more spirit. The rallies aren't that bad. It's just that the students are lacking spirit. One thing the SA could do is ask students what they want in a rally. Then try to provide what the students ask for. That way the student will have fun and not think of it as just a way to get out of class for awhile

yours truly,
Leslie Ford
grade 12

Dear Editor,

I want to express my feelings about our activities. This year, lake last, my parents received a letter in the mail asking for a donation to the school. I think all of this can be awoided if we had more activities that the students may enjoy and that can bring in extra money. We can give parties like other schools and make money just like other schools in our district. I think this should be a consideration for the sake of all ECHS students.

A concerned student

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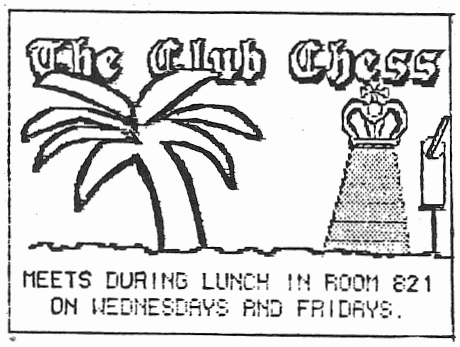

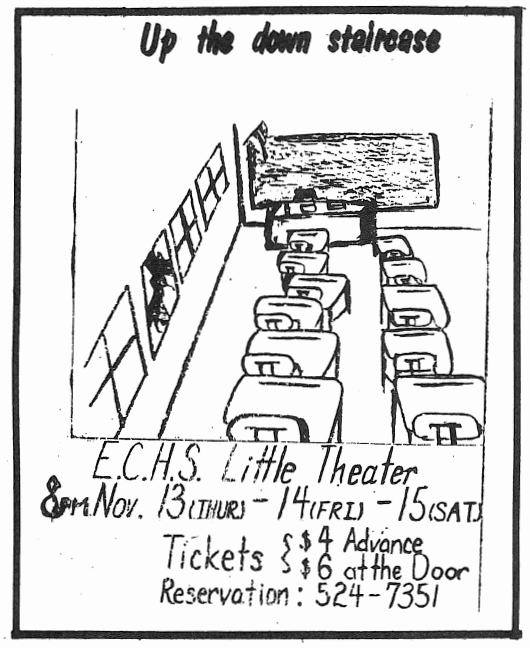

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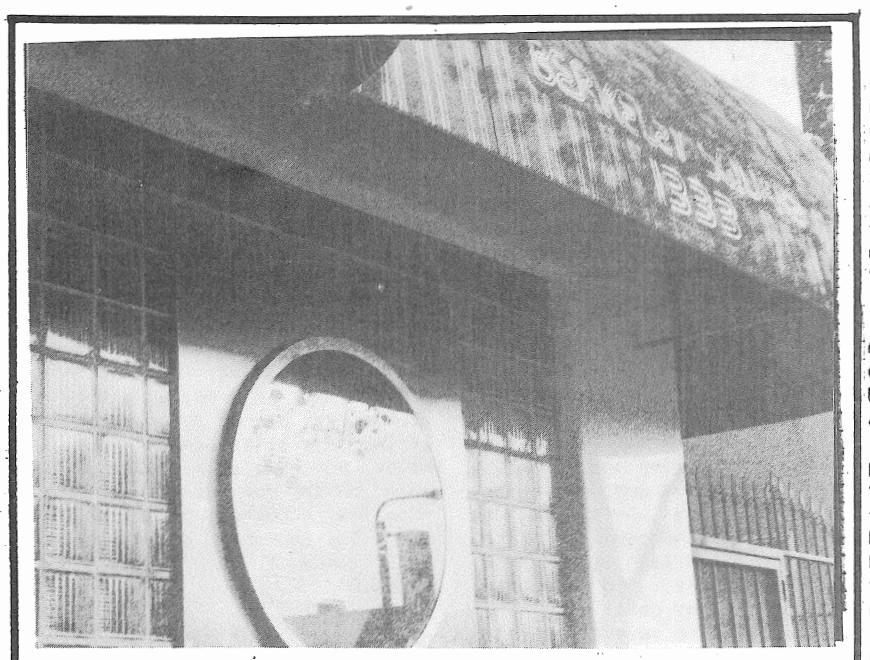
FEATURES

Clubs are for people (not for seals)

by Jef Bekes

They are out there, but most of you probably don't know it. Every night, thousands of people flock to them to seek entertainment. You have probably even heard of them, maybe even been to one, but think they're only for super-trendy people or people who dress in extreme quantities of black. Well, they're not. I'm talking about an alternative place to party. I'm talking about nightclubs.

The club scene has been alive and kicking ever since Bill Graham opened the doors of the Fillmore to such bands as the Grateful Dead and Jefferson Airplane back in the sixties. The Bay Area has always been regarded as an epicenter for the music scene and there are many things around today to back that up. Like nightclubs.



The Berkeley Square - bigger isn't always better.

Although many of the clubs your parents may have grown up with are no longer around, the Bay Area has been blessed with more than a handful of great clubs guaranteed to tickle your karma.

The newest, and perhaps the best club to break into the club scene is a club called the Omni, located on south Shattuck at 48th street. It used to be a church, but I guess someone decided that south Shattuck avenue was not the best place for a church, so electrical and musical pioneer John Nady bought it and turned it into a great a nightclub. The Omni is quite spacious, boasting over 20,000 square feet. There's plenty of ventilation, so if you don't take too kindly to smoke, it won't present as much as a problem as in some other clubs. Recently, it was voted as the "Best East Bay Nightclub" in the Berkeley Express. All things considered, I would have to agree that the Omni is the East Bay's hottest nightclub.

Another East Bay nightclub is a little place on University avenue called the Berkeley Square. It is noted not only for its dancing, but also for its live shows. Despite its size, the Berkeley Squre has hosted its share of big-name shows with the recent Fishbone show and Minneanapolis based the Replacements last year. The acoustics are excellent, especially considering its size. The club can become rather cramped at times, but overall, it's a pretty decent club.

A quick twenty minutes across the bay in San Francisco exists a whole new citadel of nightclubs. Most noteworthy of which is a place called the Farm. To call it a nightclub is only a half-truth. About the only way to describe it is to imagine having a nightclub in your house. It's very open, although the ventilation is a bit poor, and it also has a peculiar odor, probably due to the fact that it sometimes serves as an actul farm. The Farm is noted for booking a very diverse array of groups, anywhere from hardcore thrash to acoustic folk music, and is definitely a place worth checking out.

San Francisco's Broadway district has always been a busy place during the late hours, whether it's peeking in on the Condor Club or hustling the arcades. Amidst the pandemonium of Broadway exist two clubs, the Stone and the Mabuhay Gardens, more commonly called the Mab.

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Floats: easier said than done

by Ray Yokoi

"Homecoming"; what does it mean? To most people it means dressing up for Spirit Week and going to the big game. But to a handful of students in the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior classes it means hard work and much anxiety toward the preparation of the float.

Making a float is not an easy task- it takes planning, good organization, countless hours of shopping, many, many phone calls and a lot of arranging before you can even begin to work. Floats require participation from many students, and special dedication from a few. The dedicated few are the ones who do most of the work, the ones who stay longer after the others have left. Some unlucky souls have the privilage of losing their house to the float builders.

Each year the team we play at Homecoming varies, and this year's team is the Alameda Hornets. Each class has around three to four weeks to complete their float, but the serious work usually takes place the week before. Each class chooses a slogan like, "Hurt the Hornets." This year's senior class wants to "Smoke the Hornets". Their float is a huge beehive with bellows pumping smoke into the hive. The junior phrase is "Raid the Hornets". Their float is a gigantic can of Raid spraying a dying hornet. The sophomores will "Smash the Hornets" with a giant foot, and the freshmen will "Swat the Hornets" with a huge swatter. All of these floats have taken time and effort. They weren't constucted overnight, and they all represent class dedication and work.

Most of us only see the finished product as it rolls by the stands for a couple of minutes. I hear complaints such as "I could have done a better job" and "That looks stupid". We shouldn't complain, since after all these floats represent us. We should either help or keep quiet.

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

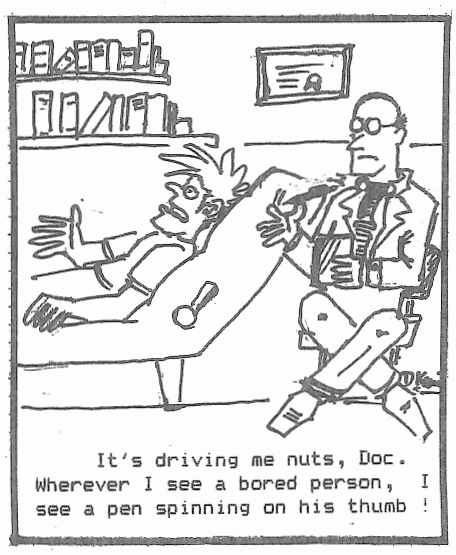
The Addictive Sport

by Darren Kani

What do a pen and a pencil have in common? "They both are writing instruments, dummy!", you might say. O.K. but what else? Well, let me tell you. They are also used in a highly addictive sport called "Filer" (feelay), or more commonly called "pen twirling".

I was first exposed to this intriguing form of amusement when my brother picked it up from one of his friends about a year ago. We were in a Chinese resturant and he, being the artistic guy he is , started drawing on the paper placemats. No big deal, we do that all the time. But when he stopped to talk with my parents, he started twirling the pen on his thumb. Of course I didn't think much of it until this year. All of the sudden, I started seeing people all around twirling pens and pencils on their thumbs.

I decided to find out how to spin pens myself. After all, I could spin books on my finger, how hard could a pen be? I went to one of my "filer"-practicing friends and asked how this silly form of fidget is performed. Apparently, you hold the pen or pencil towards the center between thumb and the index and middle finger and with a quick flick, you let the writing implement revolve around your thumb for one rotation and then stop it with your index finger. Then repeat the process as you feel the need.



It's driving me nuts, Doc. Wherever I see a bored person, I see a pen spinning on his thumb !

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Playoff hopes fade in heartbreaking loss

by Kari Chew

The El Cerrito Gaucho football team awoke from their NCS playoff dream as Pinole outscored them in a 44-42 nightmare.

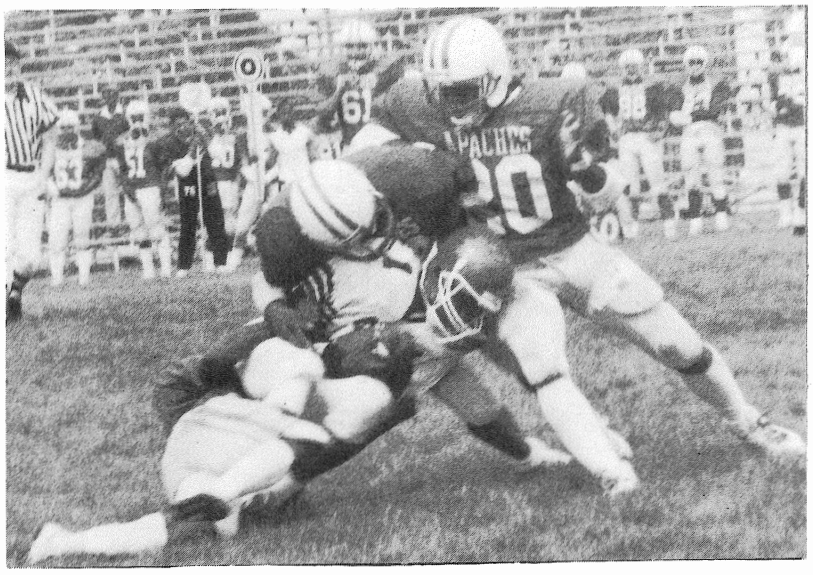
The game was extremely close. El Cerrito scored the first touchdown on a 24 yard reception by Ken Colbert from quarterback Brad Brown with 8:32 remaining in the quarter.

After a Pinole touchdown, El Cerrito's Steve Hunt blocked the extra point attempt making the score 7-6.

Early in the second quarter Fred Abdullah's 45 yard reception set up another touchdown a Brown's pass to tight end Joel Weinstien. Abdullah caught 8 passes for 149 yards.

Three minutes later Pinole scored a touchdown but they were unable to score on the two point conversion as Gaucho Damon Simon sacked PV's quarterback.

The Gauchos then moved 46 yards on five plays for a touchdown with 3:27 left in the half. Darnel Davison's 11 yard reception coupled with Chad Jorgensen's 15th straight extra point kick increased El Cerrito's score to 21-12.



Freddie Abdullah struggles for yardage.

Pinole moved 51 yards for a touchdown in less than two minutes but missed the two point conversion, decreasing its deficit to 21-18 before halftime.

Pinole rallied ahead, 26-21, with 9:18 to go in the 3rd quarter moving 81 yards for a touchdown and a two point conversion. El Cerrito's Sidney Johnson's one yard rush upped EC's score to 27-26.

EC stretched its lead when Gaucho Shawn Garretts recovered a Pinole fumble on the EC 41 yard line. With 46 seconds left in the quarter, Kevin Harris ran 7 yards for a touchdown and Brown threw 10 yards for the two point conversion pulling EC ahead 33-26.

Pinole's Mark Bonimi then caught a 53 yard touchdown pass, closing the gap to 36-32.

Darnel Davison's second touchdown, on a ten yard run, teamed with Harris' two point conversion gave El Cerrito a 42-32 lead. Davison ran for 150 yards on 19 carries in the game.

Pinole came within four points of EC on another touchdown with 4:15 left in the game.

With 1:08 left in the game Pinole's Brian Dosales recovered an EC fumble which was converted into the final touchdown of the game. Jorgensen attempted a 39 yard field goal which appeared to be good but fell short and to the left at the last second. Time ran out with Pinole winning 44-42.

GAUCHO NOTES: The Gauchos, 1-2 in league and 5-3 overall. beat Kennedy 28-20 and lost to De La Salle 62-12.

In the Kennedy game Darnel Davison, Sidney Johnson, Kevin Harris, and Dan Ward contributed a 14 yard reception, a one yard rush, a two yard rush and a 32 yard run respectively. Chad Jorgenson also chipped in four extra point kicks.

The Gauchos play the Alameda Hornets tonight at El Cerrito's Homecoming. Action begins at 7:30.

Gauchos demolish Berkeley

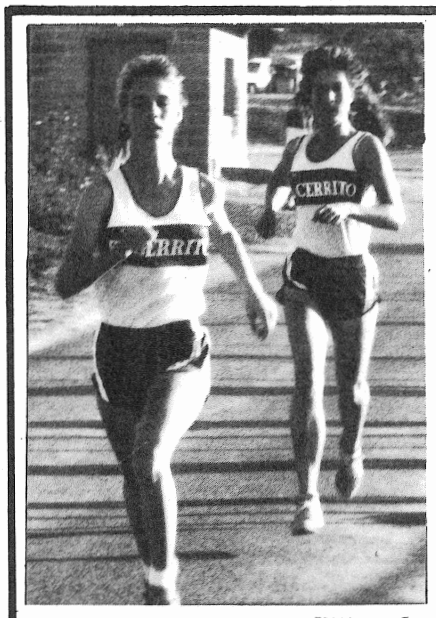
by Craig Wong

The El Cerrito men's X-country team showed Berkeley what to expect at the GBAL meet as they demolished the Yellow Jackets 19-40. The women's team fell to Berkeley 27-28.

The Gauchos had an outstanding team effort as they swept the first 3 places from the Yellow Jackets. Alex Da Silva, Morgan McClarty, and Ray Yokoi placed 1,2,3 respectively. Junior Steve Turnipseed 6th and Senior Rolland Evans 7th were the final scoring Gauchos. Brian John, Nathan Stahlhut, and Chris McDonald rounded out the Varsity team.

In the Junior Varsity race Mike Akinaga placed a close 2nd behind a Berkeley runner.

Senior Veli Lehman ran away from the girls competition to win the race in an impressive time of 20:13. Catherine Payne of Berkeley was second in 20:26. For El Cerrito Marisa Gardella finished 4th, Lori Okamura finished 6th, Jessica Buehring 7th and La Twan Wheaton finished 10th.



Seniors Debra Binnall and Veli Lehman race to victory.

The El Caballero was unable to print results of yesterdays GBAL meet due to lack of time. Those who qualified from the league meet will compete at North Coast on November 15.

Spikers earn playoff bid

by Amy Page

In the most exciting game of the season, the El Cerrito spikers came from behind to defeat the Pinole Spartans, 16-14, 12-15, 16-14.

The Gauchos victory earned the volleyball team a berth in the league playoffs, starting next week. Place, time and opponents are yet to be determined.

The Gauchos were 4-5 in GBAL action prior to yesterday's game against Berkeley, and 5-6 overall.

The Spartans could not hold on to a 9-0 lead, in the decisive third game, as junior Patty Osorio and senior Stacie Espinosa both had four serving points to bring EC back into the game. Junior Carmen Canela chipped in five serving points to lead the comevack.

In previous league actions, on October 30, the Alameda Hornets stung the Gauchos with a 15-8, 15-6 defeat.

The Gauchos played strong but missed serves at critical times. Senior Janet Schultz led EC with five serving points.

On October 28, the Gauchos defeated the Kennedy Eagles, 15-10, 15-6. EC was sparked by juniors Carmen Canela and Rachel Davidman.

Throughout the game, Davidman helped pull off clutch plays for EC with strong, timely spikes and a block of an attempted Eagle spike.

Canela's powerful serving pulled the Gauchos away from Kennedy scoring threats. In the first game, Canela served for four points including two unanswered serves to break a 4-4 tie.

Gaucho junior Patty Osorio wrapped up the opening game victory with six straight serving points.

Tennis Memo

The El Cerrito women's tennis team, coached by Sue Rosenthal, has struggled through a dissapointing season. Although they were winless in league play, strong performances by the team resulted in vicories over neighboring Albany.

Spirited performances were turned in by Seniors Kirsten and Shona Nelson, and Linda Schultz.

Senior homecoming candidate Jennet Robbins enthusiastic about elections.

Homecoming CONTINUED

Janna Matsuoka and David Bergman will represent the 10th grade. Junior class candidates are Tracey Mitchell and Inga Malveaux; rounding out the list are seniors Mark Baker and Jennet Robbins.

Spirit Week saw students dressed according to the theme for that particular day: Monday-Students draped themselves in togas for Roman Day. Tuesday people in pajamas and slippers shuffled about the campus for Pajama Day. Wednesday-Rock n' roll is here to stay as students dressed in leather jackets and poodle skirts for the "Good Ole Days" of the 1950's. Thursday was class theme day. Finally on Friday Green and White Day took the spotlight.

A 2A rally was held on Thursday to generate spirit for Homecoming.

Nightclubs CONTINUED

While the two are right across the street from each other, they are entirely different once inside. The Stone is not huge, but compared to the Mab, it is quite spacious. The Mab is noted for booking more obscure local bands while the stone usually gets the bigger names, sometimes even all the way over from England. Both clubs are regularly 18 and over, but they offer curfew shows in which minors are admitted, to cater a wider audience and to avoid unneccesary hassle from the cops.

No matter what club you go to, who you hang around with or how you dress, you'll probably end up having a good time. No one club is absolutely better than the next one, because each one offers something different to its audience, which is what truly makes the Bay Area the diverse place that it is.

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HAPPY VETERANS' DAY!

Debate CONTINUED

preliminary rounds to try to break into the elimination rounds on Sunday. A record of five wins and two losses or better qualifies a team to out rounds.

Senior Sarah Armstrong and Junior Dmitri Mehlhorn made up one of ECs teams, while senior Patchen Markell and sophomore Neil Gross made up the other. Both teams had a four win, three loss record, missing the elimination rounds by only one win.

More recently, and more locally, El Cerrito dominated an Individual Events tournament held on Saturday, October 25th. Wendy Gough took fifth place in varsity Dramatic Interpretation, doing the piece "Medea". Barbara Johnston took second place in varsity Humorous Interpretation with "Taming of the Shrew", by Shakespeare. Indra Coles did Thematic Interpretation, taking first in varsity with the subject of death. Michelle Tang also took first in varsity competition with her Expository speech on phobias. Keira Chism took first in Impromptu speaking, and Patchen Markell took first in Extemporaneous speech.

Safe rides CONTINUED

On the night of November 7th, teams of students from El Cerrito High School will be awaiting phone calls from other students who care about their safety and the safety of others. When a student calls one of the two private homes being used as temporary Safe Ride posts, a team of two students will be dispatched as soon as possible to the place indicated by the caller. Safe Rides will be merely acting as an impartial taxi service.

Doctors Hospital in Pinole has agreed to become a permanent Safe Rides post as soon as they can be hooked up with the five other county posts. Also, for an extra safety measure, the El Cerrito SADD chapter held a training session on Thursday, November 6th afterschool in room 818.

Pen twirling CONTINUED

But what need? After I got over the problems of pens flying across the aisle in class and got to the "half-spin stage" (or whatever you call it when you cheat), I started to understand. "Filer" is just a little habit. Something like biting your nails or picking your nose. You do it when you're bored, nervous, or just feel like irritating the people around you. Whatever the reasons, I suddenly found it to be dangerously addictive. Kind of like a classroom hackey-sack.

Upon further observations of my classmates, however, I noticed there are some who are taking it past a habit. Spinning the pen for two or more rotations, spinning with both hands, and using other things instead of pencils or pens, like paint brushes or straws. Everywhere I look something is spinning on a thumb.

It's irritating, addictive and useless. But "filer" is definately what the coordinated people are doing today. Will it last? Or will it burn out like swallowing goldfish and flag-pole sitting? I suppose we'll just have to sit back and twirl our pens until the time comes.

Exchange student

Britta (16) would like to spend 1 year in USA with an American family in 1987. Her German parents would like to welcome an american student in their home at the same time.

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Sports CONTINUED

companies, covering the liability is too much of a risk because they fear big lawsuits.

Other sections in California such as Central Coast Section, and San Juaquin Section have the same policy but because the chances of a lawsuit are small, they are not considering cancelling their sports events.

Unless a solution is found quickly NCS playoffs will be halted and the Fall sports will be unable to compete in the competitions they have geared their seasons towards.

Note; Liability insurance problems are not new to the EC X-Country team. The X-Country fundraising Pt. Isabel Run was cancelled early this year because of lack of insurance. A dual meet in Tilden Park was also cancelled because of the same problem. Meets in Tilden in future years are in jeoprody unless this problem can be solved.